CUT MOTION No. 11

Kunnangattupathy reservoir scheme

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Sir, I move *to reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,52,073 for Public Works by Re. 1. To enquire why no provision is made for reservoir which the Government said in the Council was under consideration under the Kunnangattupathy scheme.*

Sir, the Hon'ble Engineering Member in his reply to my resolution while finding the Kambalathara improvement system to be unsound said that Kunnangattupathi scheme required some help and he said that a sound scheme was under consideration, a scheme to construct an Eri somewhere near Muttimampallam which I miss in the Budget given to me. It is simply to enquire why it is not there and also to know whether he has given up that also so that Chittur may go without water.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* A scheme was prepared by the Department. The estimate comes to about 29 thousand rupees. The details of the scheme have not still been passed. This will be completed shortly and then it will be placed before the new Irrigation Board. I may also state that the approval of the Madras Government is necessary. All these preliminaries could not in any case be gone through in time before the preparation of this year's budget. This explains the reason why we have not included it in this year's budget. But in any case I shall take very urgent action in this matter and if it is possible to include it in the next year's budget I shall try to bring it.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Sir, I am very glad to see that there is still a ray of hope. I did not hope for anything more. I beg to withdraw my motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

The Demand of Rs. 10,52,073 under 28—Public Works, was put and carried.

20. Public Works—Cranganur—Rs. 16,537

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Sir, I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 16,537 under 20—Public Works, Cranganur.

Motion put and carried

22. Medical—Rs. 6,29,993

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 6,29,993 under 22—Medical. In doing so, I crave the indulgence of this House to permit me to explain just a few words of the salient features of this budget and also to speak a few words on the administrative working of this Department during the passing year.

There is an increase of about Rs. 35,000 in the allotment for the next year and although part of it is towards dearness allowance and for meeting the salary of 12 additional nurses, increased provision has been made both for dietary and medicine. You are aware that drugs have gone up in prices now beyond all imagination and what is worse, some of them are even improcurable. I have however been careful to arrange to have sufficient quantity of at least some of the indispensable drugs stored. It must be gratifying to us that some of our requirements are met by the local manufacture of tinctures in the Maharaja's College and I am pleased to record my thanks for the very generous help and co-operation I have received from the Principal of the College and from Dr. K. N. Menon, the Professor of Chemistry.

It is proposed to absorb into the establishment the 12 stipendiary pupil nurses whose training will be completed by the end of the current year. This will strengthen the nursing staff to a certain extent and you know how important it is to have an adequate nursing staff in managing a hospital efficiently.

Now I shall deal with one or two events of what we the subjects of the State may well be proud. Until lately the training given to the nurses here was not recognised outside the State and consequently our nurses were not eligible for any of the privileges usually accorded to them elsewhere. But as the result of the visits by the Surgeon-General to the Government of Madras and by the Principal Matron attached to the Surgeon-General's Office to some of our main hospitals, particularly the General Hospital, Ernakulam, it has been possible for me to convince them of the High degree of efficiency maintained in the hospitals, both with regard to the training available for the nurses and with regard to the superior nature of work carried out here. I have thus been able to get this training recognised by the Government of Madras thereby enabling our nurses to be registered under the Madras Nurses and Midwives Act of 1926.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly